In the Claims

1-21 (canceled).

22 (new). A process for the cultivation of cells producing IL-18BP or the production of IL-18BP comprising:

a) growing the cells in a cell culture medium that is free of components derived from animal serum, wherein the cell culture medium comprises:

Asparagine at a concentration ranging from about 800 to about 900 mg/L;

Natrium Chloride at a concentration ranging from about 3000 to about 4500 mg/L;

Selenite at a concentration ranging from about 0.005 to about 0.015 mg/L;

Wheat hydrolysate at a concentration ranging from about 5000 to about 15000 mg/L; and

Insulin at a concentration ranging from about 2.5 to about 6 mg/L; or

b) cultivating a cell expressing IL-18BP in a cell culture medium that is free of components derived from animal serum, wherein the cell culture medium comprises:

Asparagine at a concentration ranging from about 800 to about 900 mg/L;

Natrium Chloride at a concentration ranging from about 3000 to about 4500 mg/L;

Selenite at a concentration ranging from about 0.005 to about 0.015 mg/L;

Wheat hydrolysate at a concentration ranging from about 5000 to about 15000 mg/L; and

Insulin at a concentration ranging from about 2.5 to about 6 mg/L.

23 (new). The process according to claim 22, further comprising the step of collecting the medium.

24 (new). The process according to claim 23, further comprising isolating the IL-18BP.

25 (new). The process according to claim 24, further comprising formulating the isolated protein with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier to obtain a pharmaceutical composition.

26 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the cells are Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cells.

27 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises glucose at a concentration ranging from about 500 to about 5500 mg/L.

28 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises amino acids selected from Alanine, Arginine, Aspartic Acid, Cysteine, Glutamic Acid, Glycine, Histidine, Isoleucine, Leucine, Lysine, Methionine, Phenyalanine, Proline, Serine, Tryptophan, Tyrosine, Threonine, and Valine, but no Glutamine.

29 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises Alanine, Arginine, Aspartic Acid, Cysteine, Glutamic Acid, Glycine, Histidine, Isoleucine, Leucine, Lysine, Methionine, Phenylalanine, Proline, Serine, Tryptophan, Tyrosine, Threonine, Valine and Glutamine.

30 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises vitamins selected from Biotin, Pantothenate, Choline chloride, Folic Acid, Myo-Inositol, Niacinamide, Pyridoxine, Riboflavin, Vitamin B12, Thiamine, and Putrescine.

31 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises salts selected from $CaCl_2$, KCl, $MgCl_2$, Sodium Phosphate, $CuCl_2$, and $ZnCl_2$.

32 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises a buffer.

33 (new). The process according to claim 22, further comprising fatty acids selected from Arachidonic Acid, Linoleic Acid, Oleic Acid, Lauric Acid, and Myristic Acid.

34 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises Cyclodextrin.

35 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises a soy hydrolysate.

36 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises hydrocortisone.

37 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises a protective agent.

38 (new). The process according to claim 22, wherein the medium further comprises pyruvate.

39 (new). The process according to claim 37, wherein the protective agent is Pluronic F68.